

Remarks

The present Amendment is made in response to the October 31, 2007, and identified as Paper No. 20071027. Claims 1 and 4-17 are pending.

In the Action, In the Action, the Examiner rejected Claim 7 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Anderson (U.S. Patent No. 2,843,267). Claims 1 and 4-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Anderson in view of Greig et al (US Patent No. 4,260,489) and Schmidt, Jr. et al (US Patent No. 3,438,502). Claims 8-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Anderson as applied to claim 7 and further in view of Greig et al and Schmidt, Jr. et al..

I. Claim Amendments

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the courtesy of the interview conducted on January 29, 2009. As explained during the conference, Applicant has amended the independent claims to recite: “a frame defining at least one compartment having a female connector fixedly mounted therein . . . a tubular rack having a male connector, wherein said rack is removableably positioned in said compartment such that said male connector engages said female connector when said rack is positioned within said compartment and said male connector disengages from said female connector when said rack is positioned outside of said compartment . . .” Thus, the claimed invention is expressly directed toward a rack that is engaged and disengaged from tubing positioned in the compartment when the rack is slid into and out of the compartment, respectively.

None of the cited references disclose this claimed structural arrangement. In particular, *Anderson* fails to disclose a female connector fixedly mounted in the compartment “such that

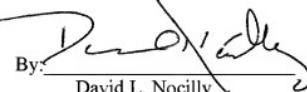
said male connector engages said female connector when said rack is positioned within said compartment and said male connector disengages from said female connector when said rack is positioned outside of said compartment" as expressly recited in the claims. Moreover, the female connector of Anderson is not further connected to the clean oil output piper as expressly recited in the claims.

In view of the foregoing amendments as supported by these remarks, the Examiner's reconsideration and allowance of the present application is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference will expedite handling of the present application, please contact the undersigned at (315)218-8515.

Respectfully submitted,

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